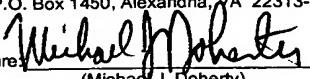


AF  
IPW

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to:  
MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,  
on the date shown below.

Dated: October 18, 2005      Signature:   
(Michael J. Doherty)

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Group Art Unit: 3738

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-446 CIP IV CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of :  
Ralph et al. :  
Application No.: 10/706,766 : Group Art Unit: 3738  
Filed: November 12, 2003 : Examiner: J. G. Blanco  
For: INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER DEVICE :  
HAVING A MULTI-PRONGED DOMED :  
SPRING :  
\_\_\_\_\_

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed July 18, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: